

REMARKS

Applicants have amended their claims, prior to calculation of the filing fee, in order to delete multiple dependency. In light of amendments to the original claims, Applicants are adding new claims 19-34 to the application. Claims 19-34 respectively set forth subject matter expressly set forth in claims 3-18, but are each dependent on claim 2.

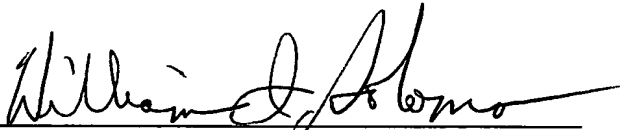
Applicants have also amended claims 11 and 12, consistent with the description in Applicants' specification, to recite that the correction gas converts metal "oxide" into "metal"; and to recite that the correction gas converts "higher" valent metal oxide to "lower" valent metal oxide. Note, e.g., the paragraph bridging pages 12 and 13 of Applicants' specification.

Entry of the present amendments, prior to calculation of the filing fee; and, subsequent thereto, examination of the above-identified application in due course, are respectfully requested.

Please charge any shortage in fees due in connection with the filing of this paper, including extension of time fees, to the Antonelli, Terry, Stout & Kraus, LLP Deposit Account No. 01-2135 (Docket No. 396.44480X00), and please credit any excess fees to such Deposit Account.

Respectfully submitted,

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